

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Ira Tabas et al.  
Serial No. : Not Yet Known  
Filing Date : Herewith  
For : METHOD FOR TREATING A SUBJECT SUFFERING FROM  
CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH AN EXTRACELLULAR  
ZINC SPHINGOMYELINASE

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
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August 22, 2003

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Mail Stop: Patent Application

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This Amendment is submitted along with the above-identified continuation application filed herewith.

**Amendments to the specification**

Please amend the specification under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as follows:

On page 1, lines 6-9, please replace the paragraph which begins "This application is a . . ." with the following amended paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/518,805, filed March 3, 2000, a continuation of PCT International Application No. PCT/US98/18362, filed September 4, 1998, on behalf of The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York, claiming priority and a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/937,234, filed September 5, 1997, now U.S. Patent 5,989,803, issued November 23, 1999, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.--